

# GENERAL AGREEMENT ON

## TARIFFS AND TRADE

RESTRICTED

IMC/INV/21/Rev.3

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Special Distribution

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Arrangement Regarding Bovine Meat

Original: English

### INTERNATIONAL MEAT COUNCIL

#### Inventory of Domestic Policies and Trade Measures and Information on Bilateral, Plurilateral or Multilateral Commitments

#### Reply to Parts G and H of the Questionnaire

#### POLAND

The participants have agreed to provide information concerning their domestic policies and trade measures including bilateral and plurilateral commitments on the basis of Parts G and H of the Questionnaire (Rule 16 of the Rules of Procedure). The documents containing replies to these parts of the Questionnaire are circulated under the symbol IMC/INV; they are revised as and when changes are notified.

This set of documents constitutes the inventory of all measures affecting trade in bovine meat, including commitments resulting from bilateral, plurilateral and multilateral negotiations, which the Council has instructed the Secretariat to draw up and keep up to date, under the provisions of Article III of the Arrangement (Note to Article III of the Arrangement and Rule 18 of the Rules of Procedure).

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## I. Production

Since 1989 Poland has been in transition from the centrally-planned economy to the market economy. Price liberalization and withdrawal of subsidies are the main cornerstones of this process. Present agricultural policy, livestock farming included, is based on non-intervention in domestic market prices.

### (a) Cattle farming structures

The number of cattle farms declined from 1,828,000 (67 per cent of all farms) in 1987 to about 1,500,000 in 1992. The total number of cattle declined from 10,733,000 in 1989 to 7,603,000 in 1992. Production is carried out by traditional and extensive methods and is directed mainly to the domestic market. The total value of cattle production was 6,949 billion zloty and 7.8 per cent of total agricultural production in 1990 and respectively 7,681 billion zloty and 7 per cent in 1991. Due to privatization and changes in the economy, over 50 per cent of total meat production was processed by the private sector.

### (b) Sanitary regulations

The sanitary regulations are based on the Public Law 77 of 1927 and are being continuously updated according to current situations. Poland is free of foot-and-mouth disease and consequently does not practise vaccination against FMD. Border controls and regulations are designed to maintain this status. Poland is a permanent member of the Office International des Epizooties.

### (c) Stabilization measures

In order to limit excessive agricultural price fluctuation the Agricultural Market Agency was created in 1990, however activity of the Agency has been very limited. In 1991 the Agency purchased 15,900 tons of pigmeat to prevent price decline.

## II. Internal prices and consumption

There are no specific measures in force at present designed to influence beef consumption or retail prices.

## III. Measures at the frontier

In 1990 Poland liberalized foreign trade very substantially. At the present time only the Customs Tariff is applied to imports of beef and veal.

Poland has granted certain concessions to the European Communities consistently with the association agreement. Poland has also preferential trade agreements with CEFTA and EFTA.